Minor in African American Studies/Diaspora

Program Mission Statement

The African American/African Diaspora Studies Minor in the College of Arts & Sciences is an interdisciplinary minor designed to promote academic study of peoples and cultures throughout the African Diaspora. Multidisciplinary methods of inquiry and research give students broad theoretical approaches to the central questions and concerns of Diaspora studies, including race, culture, identity, diversity, history, and society. Students who earn a minor in African American/African Diaspora Studies examine these central concerns through regional, national, and global perspectives. Additionally, students engage in transformational learning opportunities, from internships and service learning to study abroad, in order to bridge theory and praxis. Students who earn this minor gain a broader appreciation for the diversity and richness of the histories and cultures of Africans, African Americans, and Africans in the Diaspora.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:

Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills

• Demonstrate knowledge of the scholarship pertaining to Africans outside the continent of Africa, as well as the historic social and political movements related to these intersecting bodies of knowledge

Communication Skills

• Communicate the above knowledge through cogent writing

Critical Thinking Skills

• Locate and analyze contributions of various African cultures to the mainstream culture of local and global Diasporic communities

• Apply a holistic understanding of the African Diaspora as a simultaneously cultural, geographic, and ideological concept to current political and social issues

• Recognize and evaluate various manifestations of race-based inequality

Assessment Approaches

All outcomes are measured with final course projects using specific rubrics for each outcome.